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### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A digital signature service integrates digital signature functions on data, for storage in a database. The digital signature service is integrated within a 5 remote database management system ("RDBMS"). A database client generates a command to the RDBMS to execute a stored procedure or stored function that digitally signs the data and that saves the data in a persistent datastore. In response to the command, the RDBMS, using a digital certificate for the user, generates a signature from the data. In addition, the RDBMS generates a digital 10 signature object for the data that includes the data, certificate and signature. The digital signature object is stored in the database. The digital signature service verifies digital signatures through execution of a query command. The digital signature service also implements business logic to retrieve data based on digital signature criteria, and implements filter functions to filter the storage and retrieval of data based on verification and authentication of digital signatures. 15 The generation of multiple signatories on a single data item is also disclosed.